

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Application of Southern California Edison Company (U 338-E) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Concerning the Antelope-Pardee 500 kV (Segment 1) Transmission Project as Required by Decision 04-06-010 and as Modified by Subsequent Assigned Commissioner Ruling.

Application 04-12-007  
(Filed December 9, 2004)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING REVISING HEARING  
SCHEDULE AND REQUESTING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

On December 9, 2004, Southern California Edison Company (SCE) filed Application (A.) 04-12-007 requesting a certificate of public convenience and necessity to construct a new 500 kilovolt (kV) electric transmission line connecting SCE's existing Antelope Substation, located in Lancaster, California, to SCE's existing Pardee Substation, located in Santa Clarita, California (the Proposed Project). In response to requests from the Commission's Energy Division, SCE provided additional information required to conduct a review of SCE's application pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). A.04-12-007 was deemed complete on April 6, 2005.

On June 7, 2005, the Assigned Commissioner issued a Scoping Memo and Ruling (ACR) setting a schedule for testimony and evidentiary hearings in this proceeding. The ACR requested supplemental testimony from SCE as well as direct testimony from Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) and San Diego Gas and Electric Company (SDG&E) regarding the status of their Renewables Portfolio Standard programs. The ACR also requested testimony from the

California Independent System Operator (CAISO) regarding the CAISO's interconnection process. The ACR set a date of August 17, 2005 for service of all other direct testimony.

On August 17, 2005, pursuant to the schedule set forth in the ACR, only one other party, the Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA), submitted direct testimony in this proceeding. On September 14, 2005, only SCE served rebuttal testimony. Although SCE and ORA are not the only active parties in this proceeding, it is unlikely that it will be necessary to reserve four full days for evidentiary hearings given the limited amount of direct and rebuttal testimony served by the parties. Hearings are currently scheduled to begin on Tuesday, October 11, 2005 and continue through Friday, October 14, 2005, as necessary. This ruling revises the schedule for evidentiary hearings such that hearings will now begin on October 12, 2005. If necessary, the hearings will continue on October 13, 2005. If any party seeks to cross-examine witnesses, the party must contact me by October 5, 2005 by email (jmh@cpuc.ca.gov) or phone (415 703 2027) with an estimate of the amount of time for cross-examination requested.

In addition to the schedule for testimony and evidentiary hearings, the ACR also established a schedule designed to fulfill the requirements of the CEQA and Pub. Util. Code § 1002. As noted in the ACR, since the proposed project would be located, in part, on land subject to the jurisdiction of the USFS Angeles National Forest, the Commission entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with USFS to prepare a joint Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). The Commission's Energy Division recently received a letter from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service (USFS) regarding SCE's Application (a copy of which is attached to this ruling as Attachment 1). The USFS letter requests additional information

regarding the 201 MW wind project referred to by SCE in A.04-12-007. The USFS letter also indicates that the Angeles National Forest has significant concerns regarding the compatibility of SCE's Proposed Project with a new Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) and suggests that mitigation may not ensure compliance with the Forest Plan.

After reviewing the testimony submitted by PG&E, SDG&E, the CAISO and ORA, and the September 15, 2005, USFS letter, I direct SCE to submit additional information and testimony regarding project costs and other topics in advance of the evidentiary hearing. By October 5, 2005 SCE shall provide supplemental testimony in response to the following questions:

- Is there an executed interconnection agreement for the 201 Megawatt (MW) wind project referred to on page 9 of Application (A.) 04-12-007 or any other generation resources under consideration in the Project Area? If not, please describe the status and estimated schedule for the interconnection agreement(s). Please specify the permitting status of the 201 MW wind project.
- If a way could be found to construct a new single-circuit 500-kV line from the Antelope Substation to SCE's Vincent Substation as an alternative to the proposed Antelope-Pardee 500-kV line, what improvements and modifications would be needed at the Vincent Substation? Please describe.
- For the existing transmission corridor between the Antelope and Vincent substations, please indicate whether the N-2 reliability situation (that requires analysis of the loss of up to two transmission lines originating from the same source) currently exists for only portions of the corridor or for the entire corridor. Please explain.
- Is there room in the existing Midway-Vincent corridor east of the proposed Antelope-Pardee corridor to accommodate a new 500-kV line? If not, how much additional Right-of-Way width would be

needed in this corridor to accommodate a new 500-kV line?  
Specifically, the segment of interest is from the Antelope-Pardee corridor to the western boundary of the Ritter Ranch Specific Plan.

- The cost estimate for the Proposed Antelope-Pardee 500-kV line provided on page 6 of Appendix A of A.04-12-007 is insufficient to meet the requirements of GO-131D and § 1003.3(c) and (d), or to allow the Commission to meet its obligations pursuant to § 1005.5(a). Section 1003.3(c) requires a preliminary estimate of the costs of financing, construction, and operation, including maintenance. The cost estimate should be sufficiently detailed and broken down to enable the Commission to estimate the cost of alternatives to the Proposed Project, for example, the Right-of-Way acquisition cost for the Proposed Project may differ substantially among alternatives.

Therefore, **IT IS RULED** that:

1. The Commission will hold evidentiary hearings in this proceeding beginning on October 12, 2005.
2. Parties seeking to cross-examine at the evidentiary hearing must contact me by October 5, 2005 by email (jmh@cpuc.ca.gov) or phone (415 703 2027) with an estimate of the amount of cross-examination time requested.
3. By October 5, 2005, Southern California Edison Company shall submit supplemental testimony in response to the questions set forth above.

Dated September 28, 2005, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ JULIE M. HALLIGAN

Julie M. Halligan  
Administrative Law Judge

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Revising Hearing Schedule and Requesting Additional Information on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated September 28, 2005, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ ELIZABETH LEWIS  
Elizabeth Lewis

**N O T I C E**

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

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The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074, TTY 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.

[Halligan Attachment 1](#)